

REMARKS

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The examiner has asserted that it is unclear what side of the lock the "means for selectively controlling the coupling member" engages. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

In accordance with claim 13, the lock has first and second opposite sides and comprises first and second movable coupling members at the first and second sides respectively of the lock. The lock also comprises a selecting member that can be installed in the lock on one of the first and second sides of the lock and a means for selectively controlling the coupling member at the other of the first and second sides of the lock. The wording "at the other of the first and second sides" does not pertain to the means for selectively controlling but to the coupling member. This is the natural conclusion that follows (a) from the juxtaposition of "the coupling member" and the phrase "at the other of the first and second sides of the lock" and (b) from the fact that claim 13 specifies first and second coupling members at the first and second sides respectively of the lock. Thus, if the selecting member is installed on the second side of the lock, the "means for selectively controlling" controls the coupling member at the first side of the lock. Conversely, if the selecting member is installed on the first side of the lock, the "means for selectively controlling" controls the coupling member at the second side of the lock. Applicant believes that these relationships are clear and definite and that the wording regarding the "means for selectively controlling" does not give rise to a proper rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 13 and 22 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 over Hinz. Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the examiner has indicated that claims 14-19 and 23-28 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 14, 18, 19, 23, 27 and 28 have been rewritten in independent form and claims 13, 20, 21, 22, 29 and 30 have been

canceled. It is therefore believed that all claims now of record are patentable and early allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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